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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF  
CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT

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*The*

**ANNUAL REPORT**

*of the*

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*and*

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year 1955



TO THE CHAIRMAN & MEMBERS OF THE RURAL  
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CRICKLADE & WOOTTON BASSETT

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1955 on the state of the public health of the District together with that of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Housing Officer.

I wish to record my appreciation and thanks for the whole-hearted co-operation and assistance from the staff and also from other Departments of your Council.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. S. McELROY,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1956.

# REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

## FOR THE YEAR 1955

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**CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT**  
**RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**1955-6**

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL :  
**HERBERT JOHN EVELEIGH**

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:  
**ALFRED JOB WOOLFORD**

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL :  
**W. J. HOSIER**

**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE :**  
All the Members of the Council

CHAIRMAN  
**G. G. LLOYD**

**HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
All the Members of the Council

CHAIRMAN  
**HERBERT JOHN EVELEIGH**

# **PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF AS AT**

**31st December, 1955**

## **MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**R. S. McELROY, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., D.T.M.**  
(also Medical Officer of Health Highworth Rural District Council,  
Assistant County and School Medical Officer, Wilts County Council)

## **CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :**

**C. E. JAMES, C.S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Foods, M.S.I.A.**

## **ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR :**

**T. L. COX, C.S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Foods, M.S.I.A.**

## **ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR :**

**S. MORELAND, C.S.I.B., Cert. Meat and Foods, M.S.I.A.,  
M.R.S.H.**

## **RODENT OPERATOR :**

**W. H. BUCKLAND**

## **CLERICAL STAFF :**

**MISS M. SIMKINS**

**MISS K. M. FOREMAN**

(Services shared with Highworth Rural District Council and  
Wilts County Council.)

## **COUNCIL OFFICES :**

**Manor House,  
Wootton Bassett,  
Wilts.**

## **OFFICE OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :**

**Highworth Rural District Offices,  
Bath Road,  
Swindon, Wilts.**

## **TELEPHONE—**

**Wootton Bassett 458**

**TELEPHONE—Swindon 4847/8/9**

**(House-Wroughton 231)**

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the District	.. .. .	45,911 acres
Number of Parishes	.. .. .	14
Estimated Population (including service personnel)		16,310
Number of inhabited houses (permanent)	..	4,468
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1955	.. ..	£80,856
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	.. ..	£325

**Population:** The estimated population of 16,310 shows a decrease of 100 compared with 1954.

**Number of inhabited houses:** The figure of 4,468 shows an increase of 85 over the previous year.

### **New houses erected in 1955 :**

By Local Authority	.. .. .	69
By Private Enterprise	.. .. .	21

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

### **Live Births :**

Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .. .. .	140	163	303
Illegitimate .. .. .	7	5	12
Total number of live births	147	168	315

Live birth-rate per 1000 population (corrected)	..	20.1
Live birth rate for England and Wales	.. ..	15.0
Comparability factor for the District	.. .. .	1.04

### **Still Births :**

Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .. .. .	2	2	4
Illegitimate .. .. .	—	—	—
Total number of still births	2	2	4

### **Deaths :**

Deaths from all causes in the area.	Male 65.	Female 60.	Total 125.
Death rate per 1000 population (corrected)	.. ..	8.4	
Death rate for England and Wales	.. ..	11.7	
Comparability factor for England and Wales	.. ..	1.09	

## Infant Mortality :

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .. ..	3	2	5
Illegitimate .. ..	—	—	—
Total number of deaths	3	2	5

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate .. ..	3	1	4
Illegitimate .. ..	—	—	—
Total number of deaths	3	1	4

## Infant Death Rates :

(Number of infant deaths under 1 year of age per 1000 live births)	.. .. .	15.9
Infant death rate for England and Wales	.. ..	24.9

## Deaths from Cancer during 1955 :

Age Group	Site				
	Lungs	Stomach	Breast	Other	Total
30-40	—	—	—	1	1
41-50	1	—	—	2	3
51-60	—	—	—	2	2
61-70	1	1	—	2	4
71-80	—	—	—	5	5
81-90	—	1	1	1	3
TOTAL	2	2	1	13	18



## CAUSES OF DEATH :

	Male	Female
Syphilitic disease .. .. .	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach .. .. .	2	—
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .. .. .	3	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast .. .. .	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .. .. .	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. .. .	3	4
Diabetes .. .. .	2	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system .. .. .	13	13
Coronary disease, angina .. .. .	10	6
Hypertension with heart disease .. .. .	—	4
Other heart disease .. .. .	5	11
Other circulatory disease .. .. .	5	8
Influenza .. .. .	—	1
Pneumonia .. .. .	4	3
Bronchitis .. .. .	2	—
Other diseases of respiratory system .. .. .	2	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. .. .	1	—
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhœa .. .. .	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis .. .. .	1	—
Hyperplasia of prostate .. .. .	2	—
Congenital malformations .. .. .	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .. .. .	4	4
Motor vehicle accidents .. .. .	1	—
All other accidents .. .. .	4	—
	—	—
Total, all causes	65	60
	—	—

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following table shows the incidence of Infectious Disease during 1955 as compared with 1953 and 1954.

Disease	1953	1954	1955
Scarlet Fever .. ..	5	17	8
Whooping Cough .. ..	25	50	34
Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	—
Measles .. ..	194	—	248
Pneumonia .. ..	5	5	4
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	1
Dysentery .. ..	2	2	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .. ..	—	1	1
Smallpox .. ..	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever .. ..	1	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ..	—	—	—
Erysipelas .. ..	3	1	1
Malaria .. ..	—	—	2
Poliomyelitis .. ..	3	0	1
Food Poisoning .. ..	2	—	52
Undulant Fever .. ..	1	—	—
Total .. ..	244	75	353

## ANALYSIS UNDER AGE GROUPS

The distribution of cases in age groups and Parishes is shown in the following two tables :—

DISEASE	Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-15 years	15-25 years	25-45 years	45-65 years	Over 65 years	Age unknown	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Whooping Cough	—	1	23	10	—	—	—	—	34
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .. ..	7	88	149	—	3	1	—	—	248
Pneumonia ..	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	4
Meningococcal Infec. .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Malaria .. ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Undulant Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	2	7	13	3	13	11	1	2	52
Total .. ..	10	96	194	15	22	13	1	2	353

# DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES

	Ashton Keynes	Braydon	Broad Town	Clyffe Pypard	Cricklade	Latton	Leigh	Lydiard Millicent	Lydiard Tregoze	Lyneham	Marston Meysey	Purton	Tockenham	Wootton Bassett	Total
Scarlet Fever ..	6	—	—	—	3	6	—	1	3	2	—	6	1	8	8
Whooping Cough ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	34
Diphtheria ..	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	..	..	1	—	15	27	—	2	10	80	1	37	9	63	248
Pneumonia ..	..	..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Meningococcal Infection ..	..	..	..	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Malaria ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Polio-myelitis ..	..	..	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1
Food Poisoning ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	52
Undulant Fever ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	7	3	1	1	21	34	1	4	14	87	1	43	10	126	353

### **Scarlet Fever :**

Compared with 1954 the incidence decreased from 17 to 8. On the whole the disease was of a mild nature.

### **Whooping Cough :**

Compared with 1954 the number of cases notified decreased from 50 to 34. This number is equally divided between 5-15 and 15-25 age groups. Protection against the disease under County Council auspices is now available.

### **Diphtheria :**

No cases were reported.

### **Measles :**

In marked contrast to 1954 when no cases were reported the incidence in 1955 reached epidemic proportions (248).

### **Pneumonia :**

4 cases were notified as compared with 5 in 1954.

### **Dysentery :**

1 case was notified as against 2 in 1954.

### **Poliomyelitis :**

1 case was notified but fortunately was non-paralytic and not fatal.

### **Food Poisoning :**

52 cases were recorded in marked contrast to 1954 when no cases were notified. In almost all cases the causative organism was *Salmonella typhi* murium, particularly in respect of 46 cases in the parish of Wootton Bassett, which arose from the consumption of confectionery filled with artificial cream by a symptomless excretor employed by a large wholesale confectionery firm in a neighbouring district supplying retailers in Wootton Bassett parish.

## **TUBERCULOSIS**

### **New Cases**

Year			No. of Cases
1955	..	..	16
1954	..	..	12
1953	..	..	32
1952	..	..	15
1951	..	..	15

Distribution of new cases and deaths according to age and sex is as follows :—

Age	New cases Male	Male Deaths	New cases Female	Female Deaths	Total	
					New Cases	Deaths
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15 years	—	—	1	—	1	—
15-25 years	1	—	3	—	4	—
25-35 years	2	—	3	—	5	—
35-45 years	1	—	—	—	1	—
45-55 years	1	—	1	—	2	—
55-65 years	2	—	—	—	2	—
65 and over	—	—	1	—	1	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	7	—	9	—	16	—

### HOUSING OF TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS

These cases are classified as follows :—

**Certificate No. 1.** Sputum-positive cases where re-housing is considered urgent for the prevention of infection.

**Certificate No. 2.** Where better housing would be desirable in order to improve and maintain the patient's health.

**Certificate No. 3.** Where improved housing would be beneficial but is not an urgent matter.

The following is a summary of the cases dealt with during the year :—

Type of case	No. cases referred	No. cases re-housed
Certificate No. 1	3	—
Certificate No. 2	7	2
Certificate No. 3	—	1
Total	10	3

## **GENERAL PROVISION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT**

### **Laboratory Facilities :**

The Swindon Area Pathological Laboratory of the Oxford Regional Hospital Board caters for the needs of the District.

### **Hospital Facilities :**

These are the responsibility of the Oxford Regional Hospital Board.

The main general hospitals are situated at Stratton St. Margaret (in the Highworth Rural District) and Swindon which also provide accommodation for Maternity cases in a separate institution.

Infectious Diseases are admitted to the Area Isolation Hospital, Swindon while the nearest Smallpox Hospital is located at Reading. Cases under the National Assistance Act, 1948 are admitted to Elm Court, Stratton St. Margaret.

### **Other Facilities :**

Arrangements for the following health services operating in the District are made by the County Health Committee :—

Care of expectant and nursing mothers, and young children ;

Domiciliary Midwifery ;

Health Visiting ;

Home Nursing ;

Vaccination and immunisation ;

Ambulances and ambulance cars ;

Domestic helps ;

Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act, for the prevention of illness, care and after-care; and health education.

Mental Health Service.



## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Immunisation is carried out by General Practitioners and County Council Medical Officers and the following table gives details for the year under review.

Age Groups in years	Under 1							Total under 15
		1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	
Primary Imms. completed during 1955 .. ..	97	87				51		235
Reinf. inj. administered during 1955 ..	—	4				312		316
Total immunised child population at 31st Dec. 1955,	12	151	176	164	177	238	1052	455/589

\* Immunised before 1.1.51.

† Immunised since 1.1.51.

## VACCINATION

Age Groups in years	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over
Vaccinations	73	2	6	3	2
Re-Vaccinations	—	—	—	1	16

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47, Removal to Suitable Premises  
of Persons in need of Care and Attention.

During the year three cases were investigated but no action was necessary.



# REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1955

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# REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1955

---

To : The Chairman and Members of the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty-sixth Annual Report on the work carried out in my Department.

## HOUSING

### Number of New Houses and Flats erected during the year

(a)	By Local Authority	..	..	..	..	69
(b)	By Private Enterprise	..	..	..	..	21

### Inspection of Dwellings during the year

(i)	Inspected for housing defects under Public Health Acts	24
(ii)	Inspected for housing defects under Housing Acts	215
(iii)	Number of dwellings found so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	32
(iv)	Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	156

### Remedy of defects by Informal Action

Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of Informal Action	18
--	----

### Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health and Housing Acts)

(A)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936.	
(i)	Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(ii)	Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By Owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
(B)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts	
(i)	Number of dwellings in respect of which formal notices were served	1

(ii)	Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices :— ..	
(a)	By Owners .. .. .	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners ..	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 Housing Act, 1936	
(i)	Number of Demolition Orders made .. ..	3
(ii)	Number of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders .. .. .	Nil
(iii)	Number of undertakings accepted .. ..	4
(iv)	Number of undertakings completed .. ..	2

### **Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953**

Number of Closing Orders made under Sec: 10(1) ..	3
---	---

### **Housing Act 1936—Overcrowding**

Number of overcrowded cases discovered in 1955 ..	1
Number of cases of overcrowding brought forward from 1954 .. .. .	9
Number of overcrowded cases abated during the year ..	5
Number of overcrowded cases at the end of 1955 ..	5
Four overcrowded families were re-housed in council houses and one in a temporary dwelling at Lydiard Park.	

### **Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954**

#### **Part I**

(i)	Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Sec. 9 Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 and suitable for action under Sec. 11 or 25 Housing Act 1936, .. .. .	127
(ii)	Period in years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all the houses in (i) ..	3
(iii)	Number of houses in (i) in clearance areas and already covered by operative clearance or compulsory purchase orders or owned by the local authority ..	Nil
(iv)	Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders have been submitted to the Minister but have not yet become operative .. .. .	Nil

(v) Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders are to be made or which are to be purchased by agreement within the five years .. ..	Nil
(vi) Number of houses which are to be included in clearance areas still to be declared and which within the five years will be owned by the local authority or will have been included in a clearance or compulsory purchase order submitted to the minister .. ..	Nil
(vii) Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be patched (if necessary) and retained within the five years under Section 2 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954, for temporary accommodation .. ..	Nil
(viii) Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be demolished in the five years .. .. .. .	Nil
(ix) Number of houses (including those already comprised in operative demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 .. .. .. .	127

## Part II

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were made during the year and no action was taken under this part of the Act.

## Housing Act 1949

There was a considerable increase in the number of applications for Improvement Grants in 1955. Applications were received from 40 persons in respect of the improvement of 46 houses. One application was refused and 4 were withdrawn after approval was given. The estimated cost of the work was £5,884 and grants totalled £2,878.

## Housing Applications

In December all applications in the housing files which had been made by persons neither residing nor working in the district were cancelled. These amounted to 30.

There was a reduction of 56 in the number of applicants for council houses on December 31st as compared with the number on January 1st, 1955.

The total number of applicants on December 31st 1955 was 348, but as 69 houses were erected in the year there was a net increase of 13 applicants..

It will be noticed from the under-mentioned table that there are twice as many applicants who are householders than there are occupying rooms. Houses were built in the parish of Cricklade only and for this parish there is a reduction of 59 applicants. The number of applicants were reduced in all parishes excepting Clyffe Pypard and Wootton Bassett. The increase was only one for Clyffe Pypard, but the increase for Wootton Bassett parish was 20, and on December 31st there were more applicants for this parish than there were three years ago.

PARISH	No. of applicants on 31.12.55		Total No. of Applicants		Increase (+) Decrease (-)	No. of applicants who were over-crowded 31.12.55
	who are householders	who are in rooms	Dec. 31st '55	Dec. 31st '54		
Ashton Keynes	9	11	20	21	-1	—
Braydon	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broad Town	5	5	10	12	-2	—
Clyffe Pypard	4	2	6	5	+1	—
Cricklade	23	7	30	89	-59	—
Latton	3	—	3	3	—	—
Leigh	2	—	2	4	-2	—
Lydiard Millicent	15	5	20	25	-5	—
Lydiard Tregoze	4	—	4	4	—	—
Lyneham	12	7	19	21	-2	—
Marston Mesey	—	—	—	6	-6	—
Purton	29	24	53	53	—	—
Tockenham	2	—	2	2	—	—
Wootton Bassett	125	54	179	159	+20	1
	233	115	348	404	-56	1



## SIZES OF FAMILIES OF APPLICANTS

Man, Wife and						
No Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children	Over 5 Children
102	115	59	35	24	7	6
Percentage of the Total						
29.3	33.0	16.9	10.1	6.9	2.0	1.7

## APPLICATIONS FOR AGED PERSON'S DWELLINGS

Parish	Number of Applicants on December 31st 1955			Total No. of appli- cants on December 31st 1955
	Married couples	Widows, Widowers and single persons	Total	
Ashton Keynes	2	1	3	—
Cricklade ..	6	4	10	9
Lydiard Millicent	1	1	2	—
Purton .. ..	5	3	8	9
Wootton Bassett	12	8	20	19
	26	17	43	37

### Provision of New Houses

Cricklade was the only parish in which a building programme was carried out in 1955, although one house was built in Purton completing the 1954 allocation. Of the 68 houses erected at Cricklade (one was sold later in the year) 20 were "Traditional", 38 were "Unity" and 10 were "Woolaway". The one house at Purton was a "Unity" 3-bedroom house.

The Cricklade traditional houses consisted of 4 four-bedroom, 10 three-bedroom and 6 aged person's dwellings, two-bedroom. The "Unity" houses were 20 three-bedroom and 18 two-bedroom, whilst the "Woolaway" houses consisted of 8 three-bedroom and 2 two-bedroom.

## Number of Houses

The following table gives details of the total number of houses as on December 31st 1955 in each parish, the number of council houses, separating pre-war and post-war, and also the percentage of houses owned by the Local Authority.

PARISH	Total No. of houses	No. of Council Houses including Aged Person's Dwellings			% of houses owned by Local Authority
		Erected pre-war	Erected post-war	Total	
Ashton Keynes ..	267	17	18	35	13.1
Braydon ..	17	—	—	—	—
Broad Town ..	154	16	20	36	23.4
Clyffe Pypard ..	117	14	2	16	13.7
Cricklade ..	532	28	119	147	27.6
Latton ..	133	4	8	12	9.0
Leigh ..	105	10	30	40	38.0
Lydiard Millicent	269	28	12	40	14.9
Lydiard Tregoze	158	10	8	18	11.4
Lyneham ..	*608	40	12	52	8.5
Marston Meysey ..	63	6	6	12	19.0
Purton ..	837	83	89	172	20.5
Tockenham ..	37	—	4	4	10.8
Wootton Bassett	1171	88	233	321	27.4
	4468	344	561	905	20.3

\* includes 320 Air Ministry houses.



## Types of Council Houses in each Parish :—

PARISH	Tradi- tional	Airey	Reema	Orlit	Unity	Swedish Timber	Woola- way
Ashton Keynes	21	14	—	—	—	—	—
Braydon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broad Town	28	8	—	—	—	—	—
Clyffe Pypard	14	—	—	—	—	2	—
Cricklade	78	12	—	—	47	—	10
Latton	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leigh	10	14	—	—	16	—	—
Lydiard							
Millicent	40	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lydiard Tregoze	10	—	—	—	—	8	—
Lyneham	42	10	—	—	—	—	—
Marston Meysey	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
Purton	116	16	—	—	40	—	—
Tokenham	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wootton Bassett	191	50	14	44	22	—	—
	578	124	14	44	125	10	10

56 % of council houses are non-traditional.

Three council houses were sold during the year, two at Cricklade and one at Latton.

### Inspection of Council Houses

Owing to the pressure of work only 12 inspections of council houses were made during the year.

### Temporary Dwellings

Huts at Blakehill, Cricklade were not re-let after becoming vacant. During the year Swindon Corporation and Highworth R.D.C. carried out their undertakings to re-house all persons from Blakehill who had made applications for houses in their districts. All who wished to be re-housed in the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett rural district, excepting three, were given council house tenancies at Culverhay, Cricklade. The three occupiers of huts remaining on December 31st wished to be re-housed at Wootton Bassett. Houses were allocated to them but were not ready for occupation at the end of the year.

All of the huts situate at Lydiard Park and owned by Swindon Corporation are still being used.

The number of temporary dwellings on December 31st 1955 was:—

Cricklade (Blakehill)	..	..	3
Lydiard Park	..	..	127
			<hr/>
			130
			<hr/>

Number of visits to temporary dwellings .. .. 8

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

### Nuisances

No. of nuisances discovered	..	..	..	31
No. of nuisances abated	..	..	..	31
No. of inspections made for the purpose	..			124

### Verminous Premises

Seven houses and one hut were found to be infested with fleas and were successfully treated. Two of the houses had been left infested by the vacating tenants.

One new council house was found to be infested with book lice shortly after it was occupied. The infestation was cleared by the use of Gammexane.

Twelve houses on an estate, two other houses and a piggery infested with flies were treated with DDT/Lindane, DDT in liquid and powder forms and Gammexane.

Number of visits to verminous premises	..	49
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### Moveable Dwellings

There was a reduction in the number of moveable dwellings in the district from 26 to 18. Of this number, 5 were licensed for the first time and the caravans were of a modern type. No complaints were received during the year in respect of any of the moveable dwellings.

Number of visits to moveable dwellings	..	21
--	----	----

### Smoke Abatement

The new equipment for arresting grit and ash from the boiler stack of the United Dairies Milk Factory, Wootton Bassett, installed in 1954, gave excellent results and no complaint was received during the year.

### Drainage and Sewerage

There are public sewers and sewage works in the parishes of Cricklade, Purton and Wootton Bassett only. At Lyneham there is a sewer and sewage works owned by the Air Ministry, and used for draining the aerodrome, houses occupied by R.A.F. personnel and the new Lyneham school.

Where post-war council houses have been erected in parishes not served by public sewers, small sewerage installations have been provided, otherwise drainage is chiefly to cesspits.

Number of houses served by W.C.s and draining to cesspits	..	..	..	..	..	..	677
---	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

Number of houses served by pail closets and draining to cesspits .. .. .	425
Total number of houses draining to cesspits .. ..	1102
Total number of houses draining to small sewage installations .. .. .	104
Total number of houses connected to sewers .. ..	2246
Percentage of houses connected to sewers .. ..	50.27
Percentage of houses served by water closets and draining to cesspits .. .. .	15.15
Percentage of houses draining to cesspits but having pail closets .. .. .	9.51
Percentage of houses drained to cesspits .. ..	24.66
Percentage of houses drained to small sewage installations	2.33
Percentage of houses drained to sewers, small sewage installations and cesspits .. .. .	77.26
(The above figures include Air Ministry houses but not temporary dwellings)	
Number of visits re drainage .. .. .	80

## Public Conveniences

The only public convenience in the district is situate at Wootton Bassett.

## Refuse Collection and Disposal

A weekly collection of house refuse and salvage is carried out in all parts of the district, two 10 cub. yd. "Dennis" refuse vehicles being employed for the purpose.

Tipping is carried out in the old canal at Ballickacre, Cricklade, the old canal The Pry, Purton and on land at Wootton Bassett Sewage Works.

Although DDT is used against insects on the tips, an infestation of flies occurred for a time during the summer at the Wootton Bassett tip. As I have mentioned in my annual reports for some years, soil for tip covering is practically non-existent and this greatly increases the difficulty in the control of insect pests. As the result of the infestation, authority was given by the Council to purchase soil but fortunately the Contractors engaged in the building of council houses at Wootton Bassett wanted to dispose of surplus soil and this soil was sufficient to supply our immediate needs. This source ceased within a month, but by that time, the nuisance had also ceased. Even if it is only required for a period of 6 months (April to September) the purchase of soil for tip covering will be very expensive and will cost £400 to £500.

Lack of labour to carry out the work again caused difficulties at certain times, indeed it was "touch and go" on some days as to whether the refuse collection could be made on those days. However, since August there has been a full complement, but even so, a difficulty arises when a driver is away from work.

Excellent work has been carried out at the tips by your rodent Operator in keeping rat infestation to a minimum.

Number of visits re public cleansing .. .. . 233

## Salvage

Collections of waste paper, rags and scrap metal were continued throughout the year. These waste materials are collected in trailers attached to the refuse lorries, at the same time as other refuse is collected.

There was an increase in the tonnage of waste paper collected but the amount of scrap iron was less.

No difficulty whatsoever was experienced in the disposal of salvageable waste materials and there were two increases during the year in the prices of waste paper.

There was an unfortunate occurrence in November—a wood building which had only been erected a few months previously for storage of waste paper, caught fire and was utterly destroyed, together with an estimated paper content worth £100. The cause was not established.

Sales of waste materials were as follows:—

Waste Material	Weight			Receipts		
	t.	c.	q.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ..	59	18	2	510	10	10
Scrap Iron .. ..	3	19	1	15	4	8
Textiles .. ..		15	2	9	2	1
	64	13	1	534	17	7

Number of visits re salvage .. .. . 79

## Refuse and Salvage—Collection and Disposal Costs (Financial year ended 31st March 1956)

Cost of refuse and salvage collections and disposal	£4654	6	2
Receipts—refuse and salvage .. .. .	£588	9	2
Cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal to General Rate Fund .. .. .	£4065	17	0
Net cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal per habitable house (including temporary and Air Ministry houses) .. .. .	17/8.22		

Net cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal

—per head of population	..	..	..	4/11.828
—per 1000 population	..	..	..	£249 6 0

Mileage of refuse vehicles (Year ended December 31st 1955) :—

No. 1 vehicle	..	..	..	..	9598
No. 2 vehicle	..	..	..	..	8670

Running cost of refuse vehicles per mile (Year ended December 31st 1955) :—

No. 1 vehicle	..	..	..	..	1/0.382
No. 2 vehicle	..	..	..	..	1/3.277

Miles per gallon (Year ended December 31st 1955) :—

No. 1 vehicle	..	..	..	..	7.29
No. 2 vehicle	..	..	..	..	6.76

## Infectious Diseases

Four patients suffering from infectious disease were moved to hospital.

At two of the houses where infectious disease was present there were persons employed in milk production and in both cases it was ensured that the milk went for pasteurisation before it reached the consumer.

In the third instance the father of the patient was a lorry driver who collected milk from the farms for transport to a wholesale dairy. Assurance was given that all milk contained in churns handled by the lorry driver was pasteurised before distribution.

No. of visits re infectious disease .. .. . 23

## FOODS AND DRUGS ACT 1938-1955

### Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 to 1954

No. of Milk Distributors on the Register	..	..	..	16
No. of Distributors' dairies on the Register	..	..	..	10
No. of inspections made under the Regulations	..	..	..	12

### Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954

No. of "Tuberculin Tested" dealers' licences	..	..	..	12
No. of Supplementary "Tuberculin Tested" dealers licences	..	..	..	6

### Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949 to 1953

No. of "Pasteurised" dealers' licences	..	..	..	9
No. of Supplementary "Pasteurised" dealers licences	..	..	..	5



## Milk Sampling

More than twice as many milk samples were taken during the year than in 1954.

There were 13 producer/retailers and samples of milk were taken from all, although 4 of them do not have a milk round.

Only 2 samples of pasteurised milk were taken as milk of this designation is sampled by other officers at the premises where the milk is pasteurised.

### Number of Milk Samples taken

	Designated	Non-designated	Pasteurised
For methylene blue tests only	82	58	—
For methylene blue plus biological tests .. .. .	37	—	—
For biological tests only ..	—	5	—
For phosphatase test only ..	—	—	2
	119	63	2

A further 6 milk samples were submitted for biological examination but the guinea pigs which had been inoculated died.

Results of Milk Sampling							
Designated (T.T.)			Non-designated			Pasteurised	
	Pass	Fail		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
Methylene blue test	112 74%	40 26%	Methylene blue test	23 92%	2 8%	2 100%	—
Biological test	37 100%	—	Biological test	5 100%			

## Ice Cream

The number of traders registered for the storage and sale of ice cream rose to 32 and 2 premises are registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream. The majority of the parishes in the district have a shop or shops selling one or other of the prepacked brands but none are registered until the provisions of the Foods and Drugs Act are satisfied. Even so the results of the check samples were not very satisfactory this year and in the case of one prepacked type it was necessary to report back to the district of manufacture on three occasions. Of the 17 samples taken non faecal B.Coli was present in three samples and faecal B.Coli in one. The faecal B.Coli

appeared in the final sample from an ice cream manufacturer in the district with whom two inspectors had worked carefully to improve the grading from 4 to 1. It was disappointing having this contamination and goes to prove what extreme care in sterilisation is required to produce a first-class ice cream. A table of the samples is set out hereunder.

Manufacturer	Provisional Grading			
	1	2	3	4
A .. ..		3		
Percentage ..		100 %		
B .. ..	2	1		
Percentage ..	66 $\frac{2}{3}$ %	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %		
C .. ..	1	2		
Percentage ..	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ %	66 $\frac{2}{3}$ %		
D .. ..				3
Percentage ..				100 %
E .. ..	1	1	2	1
Percentage ..	20 %	20 %	40 %	20 %
Totals ..	4	7	2	4
Percentages ..	23.75 %	41.18 %	11.76 %	23.53 %

## Meat

Slaughtering was carried out at 8 slaughterhouses during the year. There has been 100 % inspection of animals killed and an increase in the number of animals of nearly 10 %.

There are two slaughterhouses where all the carcasses and offal are for wholesale trade, the majority of the animals slaughtered being calves. At these premises a great amount of killing is carried out in the evenings and on Sundays.

There was a slight increase in the percentage of the total animals of all kinds found to be infected with disease, but the incidence of disease in calves and pigs was less than in 1954.

Only 12 out of 21,167 calves were condemned for congenital tuberculosis. Where information was available, the details relating to the market where the calves were bought, the number, weight, etc., was passed to the appropriate Ministry of Agriculture Veterinary Officer. The position was as follows:—

Calves bearing no Market ticket .. .. .	3
Calves untraceable by the Veterinary Officer .. ..	2
Dams found to be negative when tested for tuberculosis	3
Dams found to be affected with tuberculosis .. ..	4
Number of visits to and inspections made at slaughter-houses .. .. .	1271
Number of visits made to butchers' shops .. ..	9

It will be noted that there is an increase in the percentage of cattle, especially of cows, found to be affected with disease. This was due to the fact that a number of casualty cattle were brought for slaughter.

### Animals killed and Carcases examined

	Cattle other than cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Kid	Total
No. of animals killed ..	198	167	21167	485	3665	1	25683
No. of animals inspected ..	198	167	21167	485	3665	1	25683



## Condemned Meat

	Cattle other than cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Total
<b>Condemned for Tuberculosis only</b>						
Whole carcasses ..	1	4	12	—	—	17
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	11	17	12	9	—	49
Total number of animals affected with Tuberculosis	12	21	24	9	—	66
Percentage of the number inspected which were affect- ed with tubercu- losis .. ..	6.06	12.57	0.11	1.86	—	0.26
<b>Condemned for diseases other than Tuberculosis</b>						
Whole carcasses ..	1	2	44	4	36	87
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	46	65	596	47	448	1202
Total number of animals affected with diseases other than Tuber- culosis .. ..	47	67	640	51	484	1289
Percentage of the number inspected which were affect- ed with diseases other than Tuber- culosis .. ..	23.74	40.12	3.02	10.52	13.21	5.01

	Cattle other than cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Total
<b>Condemned for all Diseases</b>						
Whole carcasses . .	2	6	56	4	36	104
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned . .	57	82	608	56	448	1251
Total number of animals affected with disease . .	59	88	664	60	484	1355
Percentage of the number inspected which were affect- ed with disease . .	29·80	52·69	3·14	12·37	13·21	5·28

### Weights of Condemned Meat

	Condemned in slaughterhouses				Condemned in shops			
	T. c. q. lbs.				T. c. q. lbs.			
Beef .. .. .	2	3	3	27	—	11	2	4
Veal .. .. .	1	9	2	13	—	—	—	—
Pork and Bacon .. .. .	—	5	3	15	—	—	—	—
Mutton and Lamb .. .. .	—	10	2	26	—	—	—	—
Offal .. .. .	1	17	3	22	—	—	—	—
	6	8	—	19	—	11	2	4

	Condemned for Tuberculosis				Condemned for diseases other than Tuberculosis			
	T. c. q. lbs.				T. c. q. lbs.			
Beef .. .. .	1	4	2	22	—	19	1	5
Veal .. .. .	—	8	1	18	1	1	—	23
Pork and Bacon .. .. .	—	—	3	9	—	5	—	6
Mutton and lamb .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	10	2	26
Offal .. .. .	—	3	3	2	1	14	—	20
	1	17	2	23	4	10	1	24
Percentage of the total of condemned meat .. .. .	26.99				73.01			

### Tuberculosis in Calves

The record low percentage of calves found to be affected with tuberculosis in 1954 was broken in 1955. The figure of 0.11 % was the lowest since the keeping of accurate figures of the incidence of tuberculosis in calves was started in 1940. You will note the steady decrease from the 5 year figures given below, the incidence in 1955 being nearly one-seventh of that in 1940.

Year	No. of calves killed	No. of tubercular calves	Percentage of calves affected with tuberculosis
1940	14095	102	0.72
1945	16985	101	0.60
1950	21397	71	0.33
1955	21167	24	0.11

### Slaughter of Animals Act

There were 19 licensed slaughtermen in the district on December 31st 1955.

### Knacker's Yard

The licence for the premises at one time used for a knacker's yard was not renewed in 1955.

## Other Foods

There was again a reduction in the amount of other foods condemned as unfit for human consumption. Condemnations were as follows :—

					Tins
Corned Beef	..	..	..	..	7-12 oz.
Corned beef	..	..	..	..	1-6 lb.
Corned mutton		..	..	..	1-12 oz.
Jellied veal	..	..	..	..	12-12 oz.
Gammon ham	..	..	..	..	1-13 lb.
Gammon ham	..	..	..	..	1-15 lb.
Evaporated milk	..	..	..	..	7- $\frac{3}{4}$ pint

## Food Premises

Routine inspections of premises where food is prepared or stored continued throughout the year.

Attention of some shopkeepers had to be directed to the inadequate protection of foodstuffs, particularly in regard to food placed on counters and in one instance to vegetables being placed on the pavement.

Visits to the different types of premises where food is handled are as follows :—

No. of visits to ice cream premises	..	..	30
„ „ „ „ bakehouses	..	..	24
„ „ „ „ fishmongers	..	..	1
„ „ „ „ grocers and fruiterers	..	..	25
„ „ „ „ cafes and other food preparing premises	..	..	10
„ „ „ „ butchers' shops	..	..	9
Total visits to food premises	..	..	99

## Food Poisoning

An outbreak of food poisoning towards the end of May in the parish of Wootton Bassett and surrounding parishes caused the staff of the department to be fully mobilised on an investigation which I consider stemmed what could have been a serious outbreak of food poisoning. Salmonella Typhi Murium was found to be the causative agent and this threw suspicion quickly on to confectionery being received from a wholesale bakery situated outside this rural district by several shops and a cafe in this district and subsequently employees engaged at the wholesale bakery were found to be harbouring a causative organism. Specimens from all the staff of the shops and cafe concerned showed positive specimens amongst some

of the workers and children, and this resulted in four workers being prohibited from working in the food premises until three consecutive faecal specimens were found to be negative.

Until control was established and all precautions were being taken, a certain amount of cross infection took place and in all 42 cases were notified and 21 cases gave information of having been similarly affected. The outbreak was well controlled by the 2nd of June but surveillance of the shop workers continued until mid-August until final clearance of all concerned was obtained. In all 127 faecal specimens were taken, 41 of which were found to be positive. The investigation involved 227 visits and with routine work continuing, was a matter for satisfaction. The staff were gratified by the appreciation of their work shown by the Council.

Later in the year faecal specimens from the complete families of an old man who has been a typhoid carrier for a number of years were taken. All these families are dairy farmers and it was pleasing to get complete negative results proving that the precautions which had been advised in the matter were still being maintained. In this investigation 33 specimens were obtained with the complete co-operation from the persons involved.

At the end of the year five suspected cases of food poisoning were investigated but proved to be negative.

Number of visits re food poisoning	..	..	233
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## Licensed Premises

A survey of 13 licensed premises was carried out in 1955.

Three inns did not have a constant hot water supply. Such supply was installed at one premise and the owners of another inn agreed to provide constant hot water.

An agreement made in 1954 that the Brewery Company would provide a constant hot water supply when electricity had been carried to the area, was ratified in 1955 and a new wash-up sink and electric water heater was provided.

Resulting from notices served in 1954, a sink and drainage were provided at one inn, a wash-up sink with hot water supply was installed at another whilst extensive alterations were in progress at the end of the year at the third premise.

Following a request for proper glass-washing facilities and a satisfactory completely new drainage system, the owners of one licensed premise preferred to dispose of the inn.

Number of visits to licensed premises	..	..	19
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## FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1948

There were 42 inspections made under the Factories Acts during the year.

At two premises there were defective sanitary conveniences and there was unsuitable closet accommodation at another.

The nuisance at one of the above premises was abated by the provision of an automatic flushing cistern.

The following gives details of the premises registered :—

Bakehouses .. .. .	7
Brickworks .. .. .	1
Builders and carpenters .. .. .	9
Condensed and evaporated milk manufactory ..	1
Coffin board makers .. .. .	1
Dental manufactory .. .. .	1
Dried milk manufactory .. .. .	1
Egg grading depot .. .. .	1
Engineering shops .. .. .	5
Furniture maker and repairer .. .. .	1
Gas works .. .. .	2
Glove works .. .. .	1
Grass drying plants .. .. .	3
Gravel pits .. .. .	1
Joinery works .. .. .	1
Laundries .. .. .	1
Local Authority workshops .. .. .	1
Motor and cycle repair shops .. .. .	17
Pottery .. .. .	1
Rope works .. .. .	1
Saw mills .. .. .	3
Sausage makers .. .. .	1
Waterworks .. .. .	2
	<hr/>
	63
	<hr/>

### Inspections

- (i) Factories on which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities :—

No. on register .. .. .	8
No. of inspections .. .. .	3
No. of written notices .. .. .	—
No. of occupiers prosecuted .. .. .	—

- (ii) Factories and other Premises not included in (i) on which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority :—

No. on register .. .. .	55
No. of inspections .. .. .	39
No. of written notices .. .. .	1
No. of occupiers prosecuted .. .. .	—



## Defects

Cases in which defects were found :—

	Found	Remedied
Insufficient sanitary conveniences	.. —	—
Unsuitable or defective .. ..	.. 3	1

## Outworkers

Outworkers were engaged in the making of gloves in the following parishes :—

Ashton Keynes	..	..	..	..	6
Clyffe Pypard	..	..	..	..	1
Cricklade ..	..	..	..	..	10
Lydiard Millicent	..	..	..	..	1
Purton ..	..	..	..	..	1
					—
					19
					—

In addition to this total, 8 outworkers were employed outside the district by glovers with premises in the district.

## WATER SUPPLIES

There was an ample yield of water from the combined sources of supply but the storage capacity was not sufficient, and the amount of water which could be delivered to the principal reservoir was limited to the quantity which could be pumped through a 10 inch main. When trouble occurred on this rising main the amount of water in the reservoir diminished rapidly and on a few occasions the reservoir became empty.

With the yearly addition to the number of houses and the growing increase in the amount used on farms, the water consumption has risen considerably.

The water from all sources is chlorinated but at Ashton Keynes, which is the main source, the water before treatment is of a very high purity.

There is no plumbo-solvency in any of the water supplies.

Analysis of water from three sources was made to determine the fluorine content. The analyst reported the fluorine contents to be low.

100 water connections were made to houses during the year. Of this number 90 were made to new houses. Formal action was taken resulting in 5 houses being connected and 2 were connected as the result of informal action.

## Sources

The main source of water used for public supply is situate at Ashton Keynes, two boreholes being used. The next in importance of yield is the Clyffe Pypard supply which is obtained from an adit driven into the chalk hills. The broad town supply is obtained from a well, as is also the small source at Thornhill.

Water is supplied to a small number of premises at Clyffe Pypard from a private source.

## Storage

The following gives details of the water storage in the district :—

	Gallons
Reservoir at Hook .. .. .	500000
Reservoir at Cricklade .. .. .	60000
Elevated tank at Wootton Bassett .. .. .	50000
Underground tanks at Clyffe Pypard .. .. .	35000
Elevated tank at Ashton Keynes .. .. .	20000
Elevated tank at Purton (Pavenhill) .. .. .	20000
Underground tank at Purton (The Heading) .. .. .	17000
Elevated tank at Bradenstoke .. .. .	12000
Underground tank at Broad Town .. .. .	10000
	<hr/>
	724000
	<hr/>

## Distribution

The reservoirs at Hook and Cricklade and the tank at Ashton Keynes have water pumped to them from two boreholes situate at Ashton Keynes. In turn the tanks at Purton and Wootton Bassett are fed by gravity from Hook. A tank owned by the Air Ministry at Lyneham can be supplied by gravity from Hook but a booster pump also operates. Water from this tank is pumped to the Bradenstoke tank. From the storage reservoirs and tanks water mains radiate to supply services to all parishes.

## Water Sampling

During the year 65 samples of water were submitted for analysis, 62 for bacteriological and 3 for chemical examination.

Number of water samples taken :—Public supplies	53
Private supplies	12

Five samples taken from public supplies were unsatisfactory and 3 were “suspicious”. The source of pollution at the Clyffe Pypard supply was found and check samples showed the water to be satisfactory.



At 6 of the 8 private premises where the water was found to be unfit, there were no water mains in the vicinity to which the houses could be connected. Of the remaining 2 houses, one was connected to the water main and the other was vacated and remained unoccupied.

One of the above six private premises obtained water from the river Thames and at the end of the year the owner was awaiting delivery of a chlorinating plant instead of the unsatisfactory manual chlorination.

The detailed results of chemical analysis of water taken from public supplies are shewn hereunder :—

	Ashton Keynes (Reaction pH7.38)	Broad Town (Reaction pH7.18)	Clyffe Pypard (Reaction pH7.80)
	Parts per Million		
Fluorine .. ..	0.33	0.11	0.06
Lead and Copper ..	absent	absent	absent
Hardness—Total ..	273	329	268
Hardness—Permanent	29	34	36
Hardness—Temporary	246	295	232
Appearance on ignition	No charring	Very slight charring	Very slight charring
Loss on ignition ..	25	20	23
Total solids .. ..	340	440	343
Nitrogen as Nitrates ..	0.05	0.7	0.7
Nitrate .. ..	absent	absent	absent
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs.)	0.07	0.06	0.15
Equivalent to Sodium			
Chlorine .. ..	22	18	18.5
Chlorine (as Chlorides)	13.5	11	11.5
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.004	0.018	0.012
Free and Saline			
Ammonia .. ..	0.02	0.026	0.014
Free Carbon Dioxide ..	33	71	16

## Results of Water Analysis

	Bacteriological		Chemical	
	Fit for drinking purposes	Unfit for drinking purposes	Fit for drinking purposes	Unfit for drinking purposes
<b>Taken from public supplies at</b>				
Ashton Keynes	8	—	1	—
Broad Town	8	—	1	—
Clyffe Pypard	21	3 3	1	—
Thornhill	5	(suspicious) 2	—	—
	42	5 3 (suspicious)	3	—
<b>Taken from private supplies in the parish of</b>				
Ashton Keynes	1	1	—	—
Broad Town	—	2	—	—
Latton	1	4	—	—
Lydiard Millicent	—	1 (suspicious)	—	—
Purton	—	1 (suspicious)	—	—
Wootton Bassett	—	1	—	—
	2	8 2 (suspicious)	—	—

## Houses and Population supplied from Public Water Mains

PARISH	Water supplied direct to houses (not including temporary dwellings)		Water supplied by means of a standpipe (not including temporary dwellings)	
	No. of houses	Estimated population	No. of houses	Estimated population
Ashton Keynes ..	232	823		
Braydon ..	15	53		
Broad Town ..	116	411		
Clyffe Pypard ..	67	238		
Cricklade ..	511	1813		
Latton ..	72	255		
Leigh ..	100	355		
Lydiard Millicent	259	919		
Lydiard Tregoze	106	376		
Lyneham ..	554	1965		
Marston Meysey ..	45	160		
Purton ..	781	2770		
Tockenham ..	41	145		
Wootton Bassett	1122	3980	11	39
	4021	14263	11	39

## Houses and Population supplied from Private Water Mains

PARISH	Water supplied direct to houses (not including temporary dwellings)		Water supplied by means of a standpipe (not including temporary dwellings)	
	No. of houses	Estimated population	No. of houses	Estimated population
Broad Town ..	5	18	—	—
Clyffe Pypard ..	29	103	—	—
	34	121	—	—

## Temporary Dwellings and Population Supplied from Public Water Mains

PARISH	Water supplied direct to temporary dwellings		Water supplied by means of standpipe on the sites	
	No. of temporary dwellings	Estimated population	No. of temporary dwellings	Estimated population
Cricklade ..	3	11	—	—
Lydiard Tregoze	127	450	—	—
	130	461	—	—

### Totals, Percentages, etc. re Water Supplies to Dwellings

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS

(i)	Into or on to premises	..	..	..	..	4021
(ii)	By means of a standpipe	..	..	..	..	11
						4032

ESTIMATED POPULATION SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS  
(INCLUDING POPULATION OF TEMPORARY DWELLINGS)

(i)	Into or on to premises	..	..	..	..	14724
(ii)	By means of a standpipe	..	..	..	..	39
						14763

Total number of **houses** supplied from water mains  
(public and private) .. .. . 4066

Total estimated **population**, including population of  
temporary dwellings supplied from water mains  
(public and private) .. .. . 14884

Percentage of **houses** supplied from **public** water mains 90.24

Percentage of **houses** supplied from **private** water mains 0.76

Percentage of **houses** supplied from **water mains** .. 91.00

Percentage of **estimated population** supplied from  
public water mains .. .. . 90.52

Percentage of **estimated population** supplied from  
**private** water mains .. .. . 0.74

Percentage of the **estimated population** supplied from  
**water mains** .. .. . 91.26

Number of visits re water supplies :—

Public supplies .. .. . 35

Private supplies .. .. . 41

## THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The owners and occupiers of agricultural and business premises are becoming more cognisant of the damage and loss caused by the rats and mice. A number are treating their premises themselves, others are requesting the local authority to carry out rat baiting.

Excepting local authority premises and the infestation by mice of business premises, the efforts mentioned above and the work carried out by your Rodent Operator, shows results in the figures given below of the percentage of properties which were inspected and found to be infested with rats and mice.

Owing to the nature of the local authority premises, viz., sewage works and refuse tips which cannot be made rat proof, and provide food for rats, the percentage of infestation is bound to be high.

As the sewers were found to be rat-free in 1954, no treatment of sewers was requested in 1955 by the Ministry of Agriculture (Infestation Control Division).

All local authority refuse tips and sewage works, including housing site installations, have been regularly inspected for rat infestation.

In one instance Zinc Phosphide was used on a refuse tip, otherwise, Warfarin has been used throughout the year.

From the following it will be seen that excepting in one instance, there is a continued fall in 1955 of the percentage of premises which were inspected and found to be infested.

		Reduction in the percentage of Infestation			
		RATS (1954)		MICE (1954)	
Dwelling houses ..	..	10%	(8%)	1%	(2%)
Business premises ..	..	4%	(11%)	+1%	(2%)
Agricultural premises	..	4%	(2%)	—	—

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling House	Business Premises	Agricultural	
No. of properties inspected					
(a) after notification	—	23	14	8	45
(b) survey	12	965	139	136	1252
(c) otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) ..	—	215	—	—	215
Total properties inspected	12	1203	153	144	1512
No. of properties infested ..					
by—rats .. .. .	9	114	16	24	163
mice .. .. .	—	11	7	—	18
% of the properties inspected which were infested by					
rats .. .. .	75.0	9.5	10.4	16.7	10.8
mice .. .. .	—	0.9	4.6	—	1.2
No. of infested properties treated by the Local Authority .. .. .	9	125	23	24	181
Total number of treatments (including re-treatments) carried out ..	12	143	26	27	208

## PETROLEUM ACT AND REGULATIONS

No. of licences issued to store petroleum .. .. .	63
No. of licences issued to store petroleum and carbide ..	2
No. of licences issued to store carbide .. .. .	1
No. of inspections of installations and store places ..	36

## Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits

Letters and complaints are still received from time to time involving visits to premises when it is found that the matters are either no concern of the Council or are subjects for other departments. These visits take up time to no purpose.

Number of Miscellaneous sanitary visits .. .. .	35
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## National Assistance Act

Two cases occurred in which the Council had to deal with the burial of persons where no suitable arrangements for burial had been made.

One case concerned the burial of a child whose father had left his wife some years ago and the mother had no means.

In the other instance an old lady, living alone in a caravan situate outside the district, was killed within the district. No relatives were known and as there was no one to carry out the interment the burial had to be carried out by the Council. The



caravan was sold by the Council and the amount placed towards the cost of the burial.

Number of visits re National Assistance Act .. .. 6

### Dealers in Old Metals and Marine Store Dealers

There are 4 dealers in old metals on the register, 2 in Wootton Bassett, 1 in Clyffe Pypard and 1 in Tockenham.

Number of visits re dealers in old metals .. .. 4

## TABULAR SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR 1955

Water supplies—Private .. .. .	41
„ „ —Public .. .. .	35
Drainage .. .. .	80
Piggeries .. .. .	2
Temporary dwellings .. .. .	8
Tents, vans and sheds .. .. .	21
Factories .. .. .	18
Bakehouses .. .. .	24
National Assistance Act .. .. .	6
Old metal dealers .. .. .	4
Council house inspections .. .. .	12
Licensed premises .. .. .	19
Refuse collection .. .. .	135
Refuse disposal .. .. .	98
Damage by Pests Act .. .. .	2498
Nuisances .. .. .	124
Salvage .. .. .	79
Housing—Public Health Act .. .. .	104
Housing Act .. .. .	230
Miscellaneous housing visits (enquiries etc. re housing applications) .. .. .	173
Overcrowding .. .. .	3
Verminous houses .. .. .	49
Infectious diseases .. .. .	23
Meat inspection .. .. .	1271
Butchers' shops .. .. .	9
Food preparing premises .. .. .	10
Dairies .. .. .	12
Fishmongers .. .. .	1
Grocers .. .. .	25
Ice cream premises .. .. .	30
Milk sampling .. .. .	179
Food poisoning .. .. .	233
Petrol installations .. .. .	36
Miscellaneous visits .. .. .	35

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Printed by  
Spinkes Printing Works Ltd.,  
Chippenham, Wilts.

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